

# GOODNIGHT PUNPUN



7

INIO ASANO

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7

Story and Art by INIO ASANO

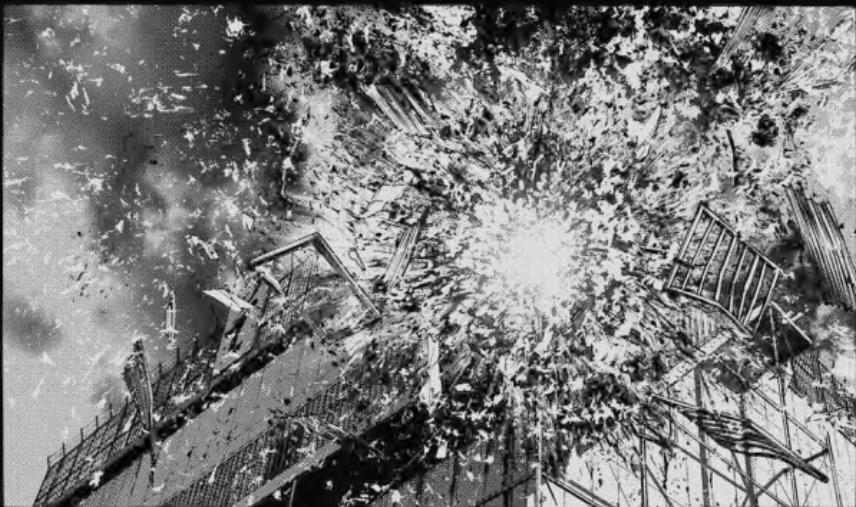
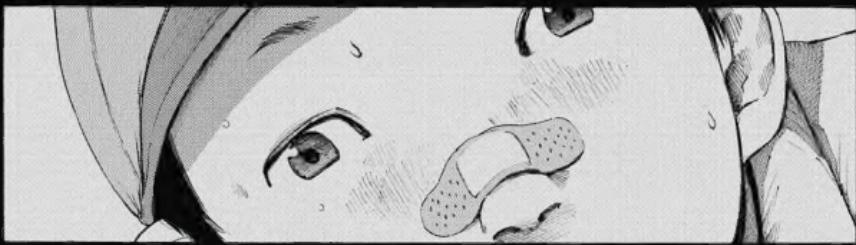
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FIRE!



SEKI!



"...I'LL  
PROTECT  
YOU, NO  
MATTER  
WHAT."

"IF YOU  
BELIEVE  
ME..."







THE BODY SHOWED SIGNS OF STRANGULATION, AS WELL AS SEVERAL STAB WOUNDS TO THE ABDOMEN. POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING IT AS A HOMICIDE.

CTIM MITSUKO TANAKA (4)

THE POLICE HAVE IDENTIFIED THE BODY AS THAT OF MITSUKO TANAKA, AGE 41, OF TOKYO.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



ADDITIONALLY, MS. TANAKA'S CAR WAS FOUND ABANDONED IN KAGOSHIMA...

ケータイSHOP  
DOMOON

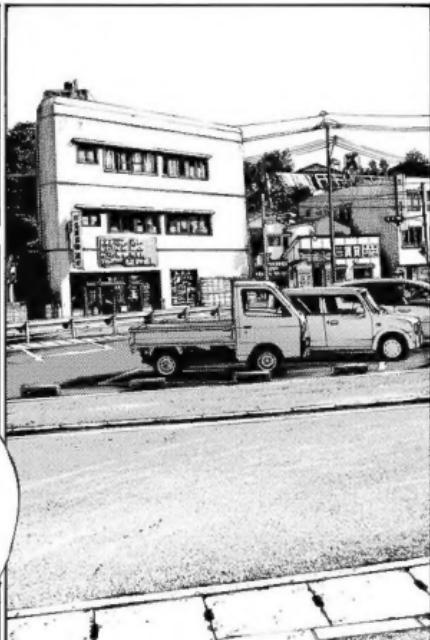
THE POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING FOUL PLAY OR A POSSIBLE CONNECTION TO THE CASE.

...AND HER TWENTY-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER AIKO IS MISSING.



June 30, noon.

"Okay, let's  
calm down  
and think  
about this."









"She's telling you to go away. Get a clue, idiot."

...FOUND  
US JOBS  
AND A  
PLACE TO  
STAY.

"...this place  
won't work  
anymore,  
Aiko."

"But..."







"YOU  
TELL ME  
IT'S FOR  
MY OWN  
GOOD..."

"...BUT  
YOU'RE  
ALWAYS  
JUST  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
YOURSELF."





"BUT YOU  
DON'T  
WANT TO  
BELIEVE  
IN ME,  
RIGHT?"

"I  
WANT TO  
BELIEVE  
IN YOU,  
SIR."

"THE POOP  
GOD SAID  
I CAN DO  
ANYTHING!"

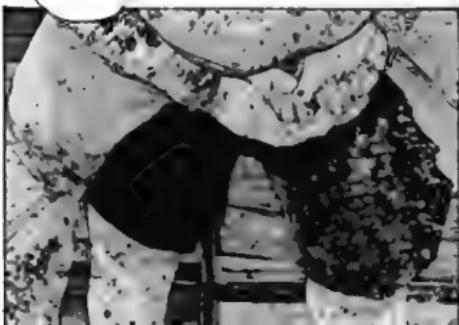


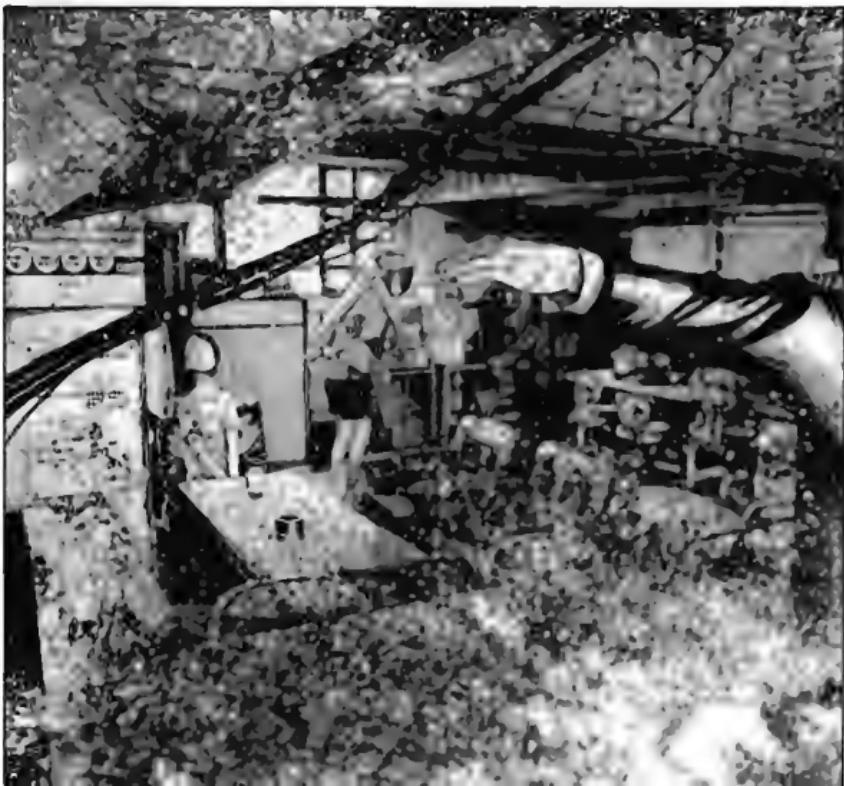
NONE  
OF THAT  
MATTERS.

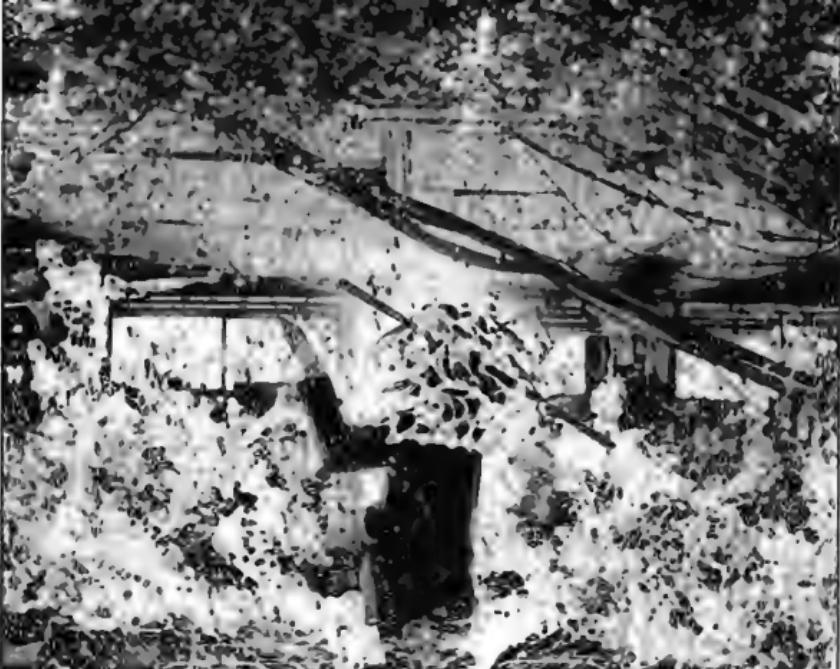
BELIEVE IN  
ME, DON'T  
BELIEVE IN  
ME...



...THROUGH  
SHEER WILL-  
POWER.











LOVERS...



MY ACTIONS, MY WORDS  
MIGHT JUST BE A NOTE CARVED INTO THE  
NEVER-ENDING AKASHIC RECORDS.



HOPE...  
YES, BUT I STILL HOPE FOR A PERFECTLY HARMONIZED WORLD,  
NO MATTER HOW FOOLISH IT MAY SEEM.



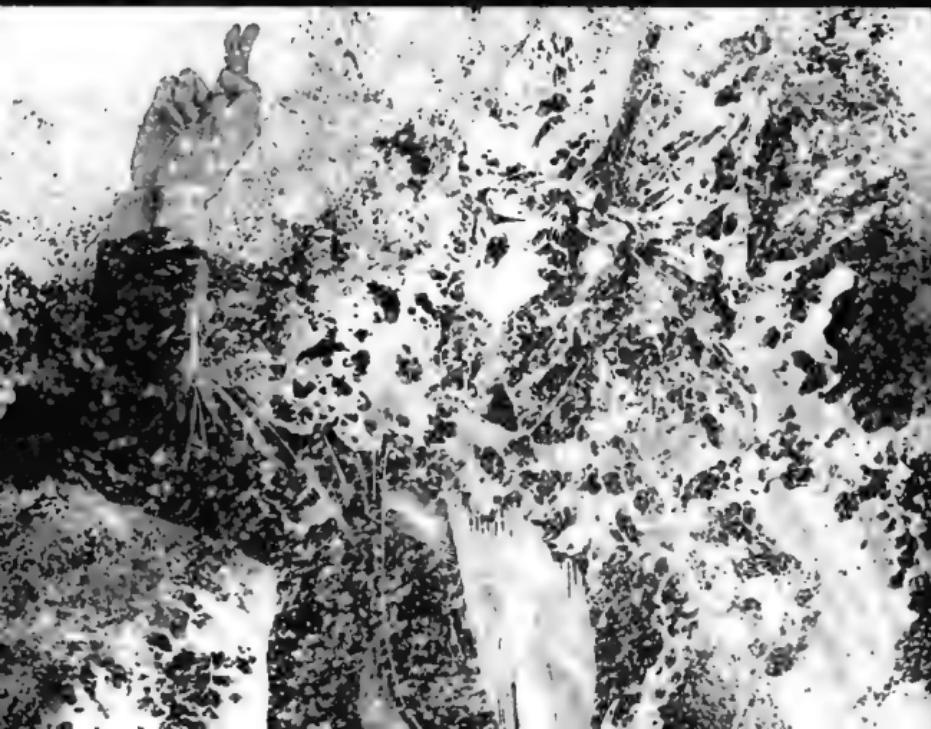
EVEN IF THIS BODY ROTS AWAY WITHOUT ANYONE  
EVER KNOWING, I BELIEVE THAT THE VIBRATIONS OF THE  
MAGICAL WARRIORS RESONATE WITH YOU.



EVEN IF THIS ERA COMES AROUND AGAIN,  
BECAUSE I LIVED IN THIS MOMENT.



AND BECAUSE OF THAT,  
THEY WERE THE BEST VIBRATIONS.  
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS.



G  
O  
O  
D

V  
I  
B  
R  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N  
S!



So happy.

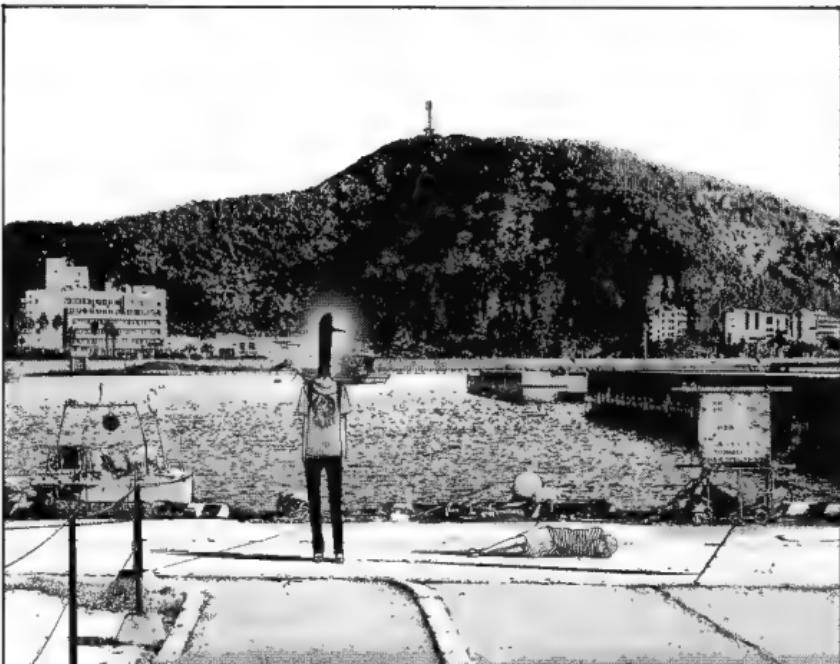














"Aiko,  
you've got  
a really high  
fever."



THE  
MEDICINE...

...ISN'T  
WORKING  
ANYMORE.



IF  
WE DO  
THAT...

...I'LL BE  
ARRESTED.

"We  
should  
go to a  
hospital."



YOU  
WANT  
ME TO BE  
ARRESTED.

I  
GET  
IT...

HEE  
HEE...





MITSUO  
TANAKA WAS  
FOUND DEAD  
IN THE  
MOUNTAINS, AND  
HER CAR WAS  
FOUND ABANDONED  
IN KAGOSHIMA  
PREFECTURE...

AND THE  
KAGOSHIMA  
POLICE ARE  
LOOKING FOR  
HER AS A  
PERSON OF  
INTEREST.

HER  
DAUGHTER  
AND REMAINS  
MISSING

NEXT UP,  
THE KBF  
RADIO  
TRAFFIC  
REPORT!



"I think it's too dangerous to count on relatives at a time like this."

"Aiko, I don't think this was the right decision."





"Let's get  
out of  
the cab,  
fast."

CREDIT DEBT CARDS OR



"If he's  
calling  
the cops..."      "The  
driver  
might have  
recognized  
you."

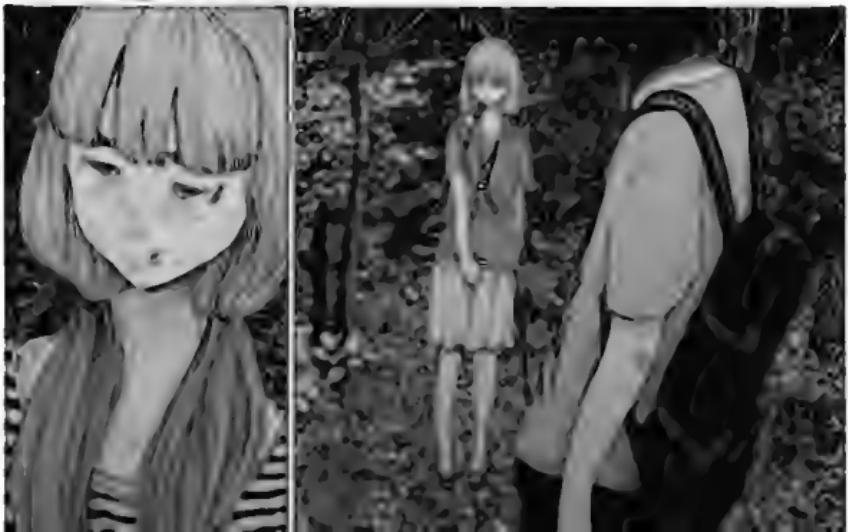




"Hide,  
Aiko."



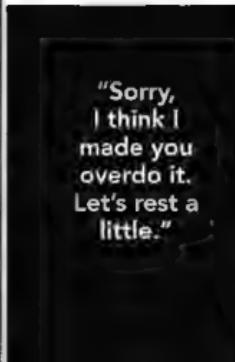
"Let's  
get away  
from the  
road."







"I saw on  
TV once that if  
you find a river  
and follow it  
downstream,  
you'll find a  
town."







TH-THAT  
WAS A  
CLOSE  
CALL.







...what  
are you  
going to  
believe?"

"If you  
don't  
believe  
in me..."

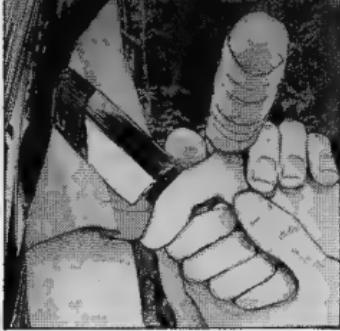


"I  
promised  
you. I'll  
protect you  
no matter  
what."



"Believe  
in me."





"Seriously,  
you really  
are a stupid  
cow."



"That's  
really  
good,  
Aiko."

"But  
that's  
good."





"...you've  
saved  
me."

"Maybe  
that's  
why..."

"...and  
I think  
we'll truly  
understand  
each  
other."

"Just  
a little  
more..."





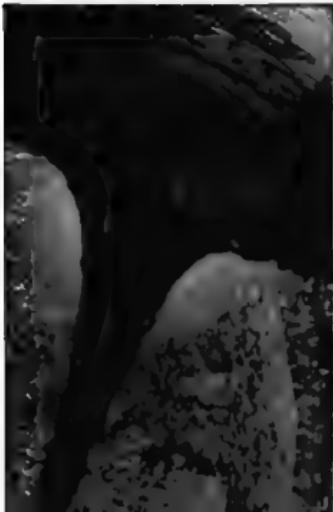
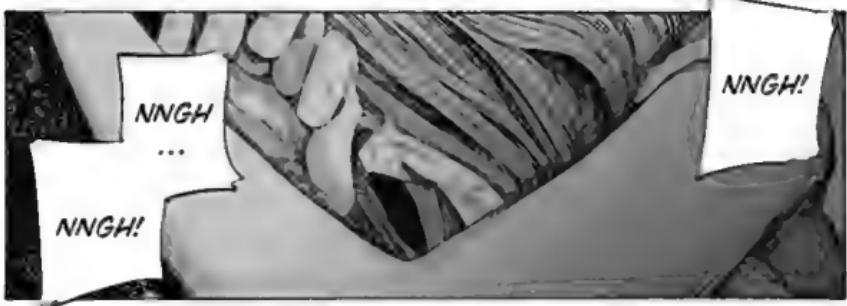
"Aiko,  
you  
don't  
need to  
think  
any-  
more."

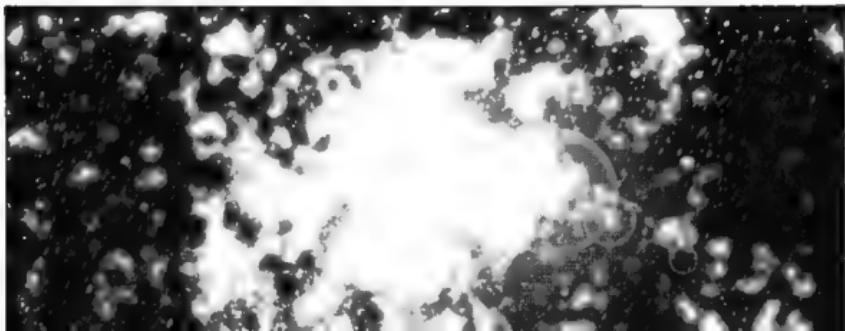


"...because  
you were  
thinking too  
much."

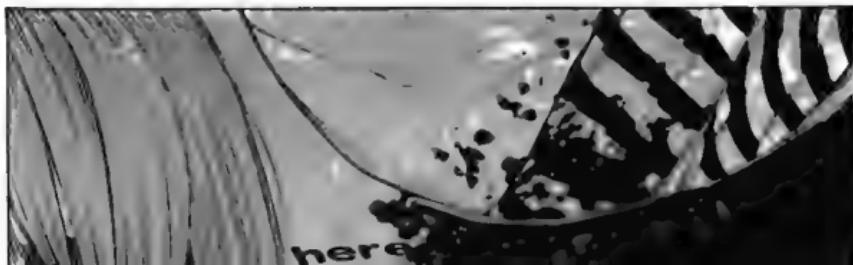
"We didn't  
understand  
each other..."

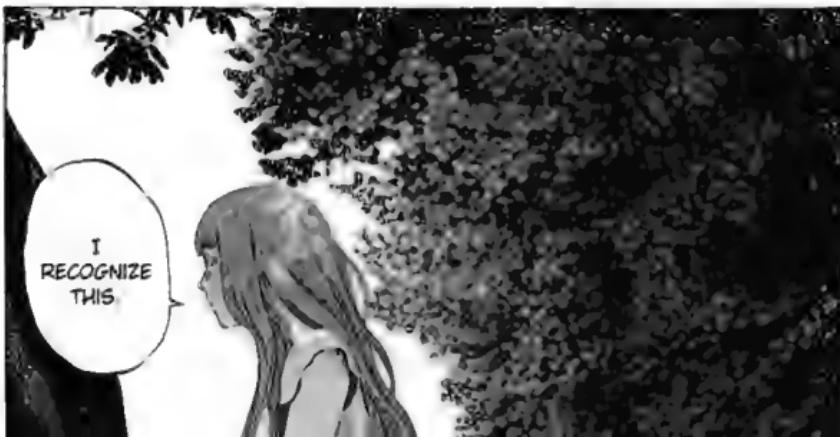


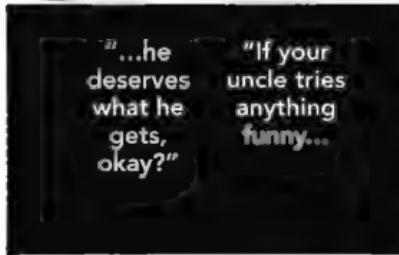














To whom it may  
concern:

Due to the merging of  
municipalities and the  
redevelopment of the  
village, this hospital  
has relocated to the  
civic center. Thank  
you for your many  
years of patronage.  
-Orihara Hospital



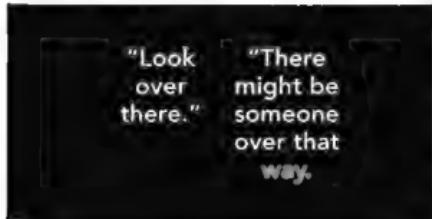
I  
WONDER...



...IF  
ANYONE  
STILL LIVES  
HERE?













NO  
MATTER  
HOW HARD  
WE FIGHT  
IT...

...WE  
ALWAYS  
RETURN TO  
WHERE WE'RE  
MEANT TO  
BE.



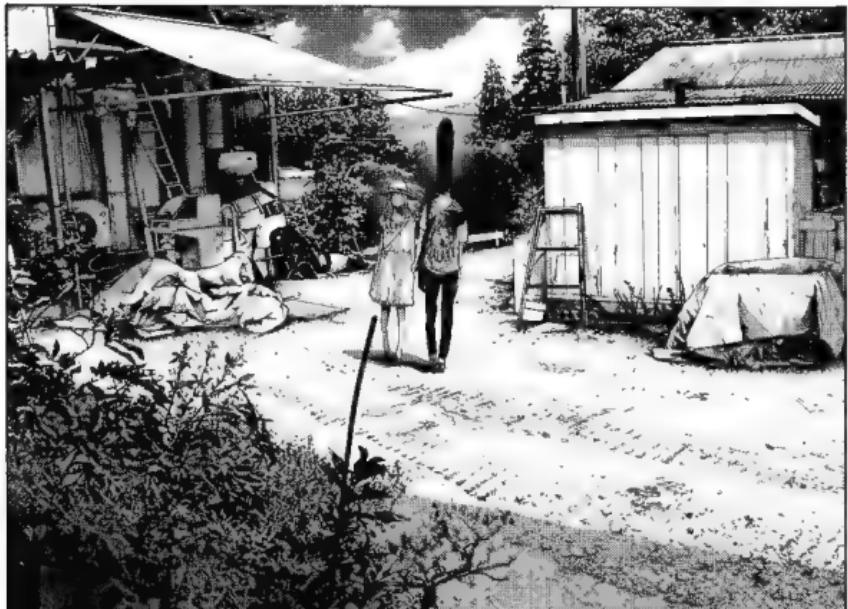
BUT  
THE PART OF  
YOU THAT CAN  
SAY THAT KIND  
OF THING HAS  
GOTTEN TOO  
STRONG.

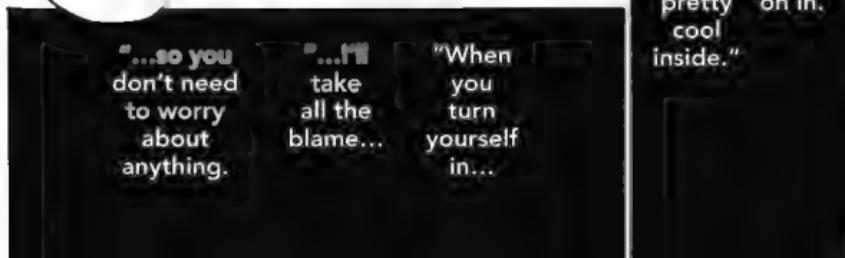
YOU TOLD  
ME NOT TO  
THINK ANY-  
MORE.



...THAN  
YOU WERE  
HOPING I  
WOULD BE.

I'M  
MUCH MORE  
ORDINARY...





*"Even if I'm arrested, knowing you're waiting for me on the outside will allow me to be okay by myself for years or decades."*









THAT SHOOTING STAR WE SAW ON OUR WAY BACK FROM THE FACTORY WHEN WE WERE KIDS...

MY  
WISH WAS  
THAT YOU  
WOULD  
LOVE ME  
TOO.

IT  
CAME  
TRUE.

THAT'S  
AMAZING.  
CAN  
THERE BE  
A GREATER  
HAPPINESS?



LET'S FEST!

THAT  
HUGE  
MILKY WAY  
BY THE  
FACTORY?

"I'm  
sure we  
will."

EVEN  
IF WE'RE  
SEPARATED...

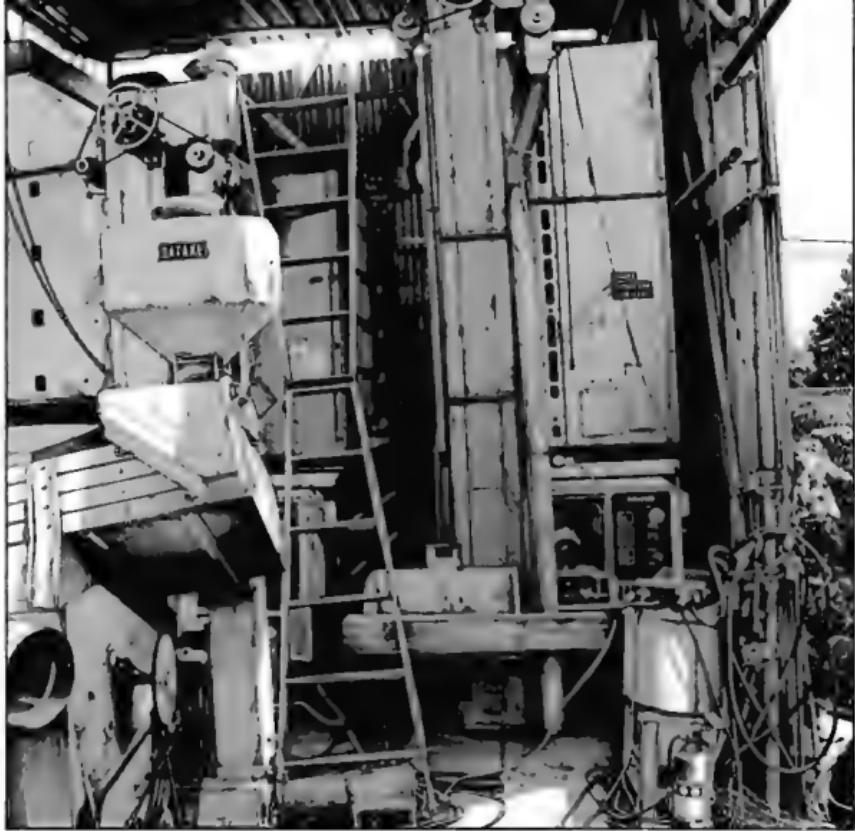
...LET'S  
REMEMBER  
EACH OTHER  
ON TANABATA  
DAY, OKAY?

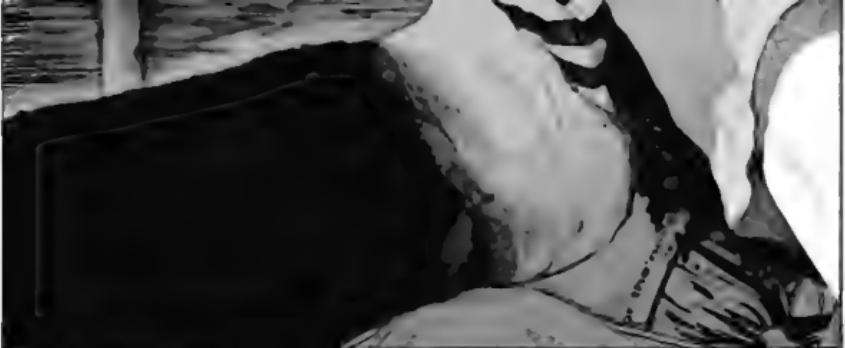
"Okay, I  
promise."

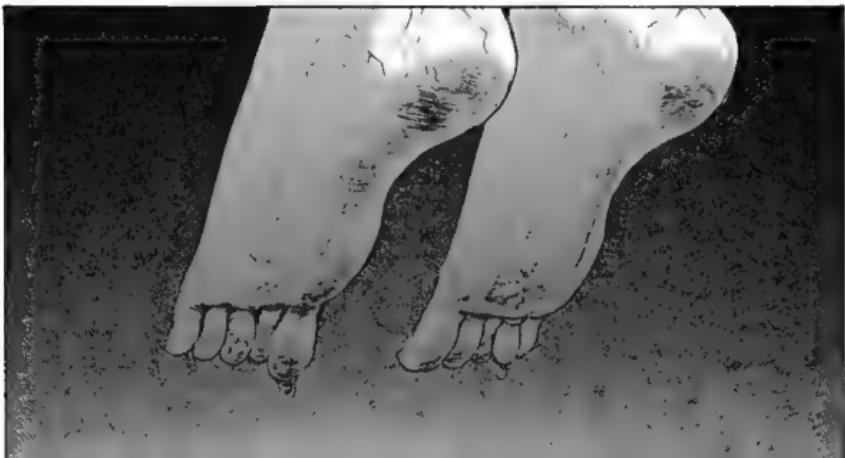
























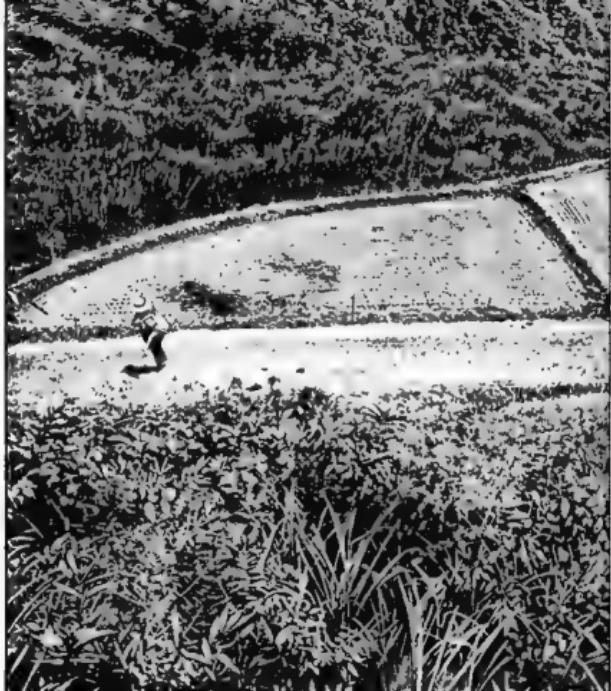


"Aiko,  
I was  
thinking  
about  
our life  
from  
here on  
out.

"...but  
we can  
probably  
manage  
one that's  
nice  
enough."

"We  
probably  
can't have  
a cushy  
life..."





"When I wake up to go to my night shift, you'll just be getting home from work.

"You'll complain a little bit about your coworkers, like you always do. I'll get irritated, but I'll figure if it makes you feel better, I can put up with it.

"...until eventually you'll fall in love with someone a little bit taller and a little bit more cheerful than me and leave.

"I'll be exhausted and become even more useless...

"We'll live like ships passing each other, and there'll be no way we'll be able to save any money, and if either one of us has an accident, we'll be in serious trouble.



"Let's start over.

"Wait, that isn't fun at all.



"What do  
I want to  
do? What  
do I want  
to happen  
to me?

"...I was  
thinking.  
"Aiko..."



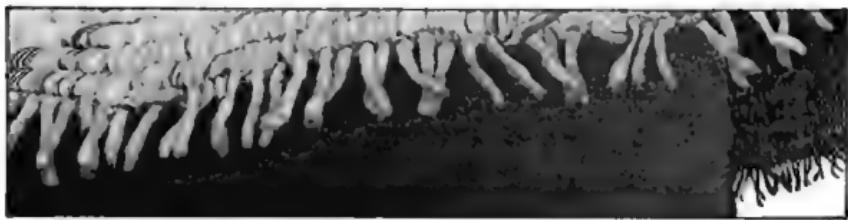
"I  
wanted  
you to kill  
me."











"I  
must  
be an  
idiot."









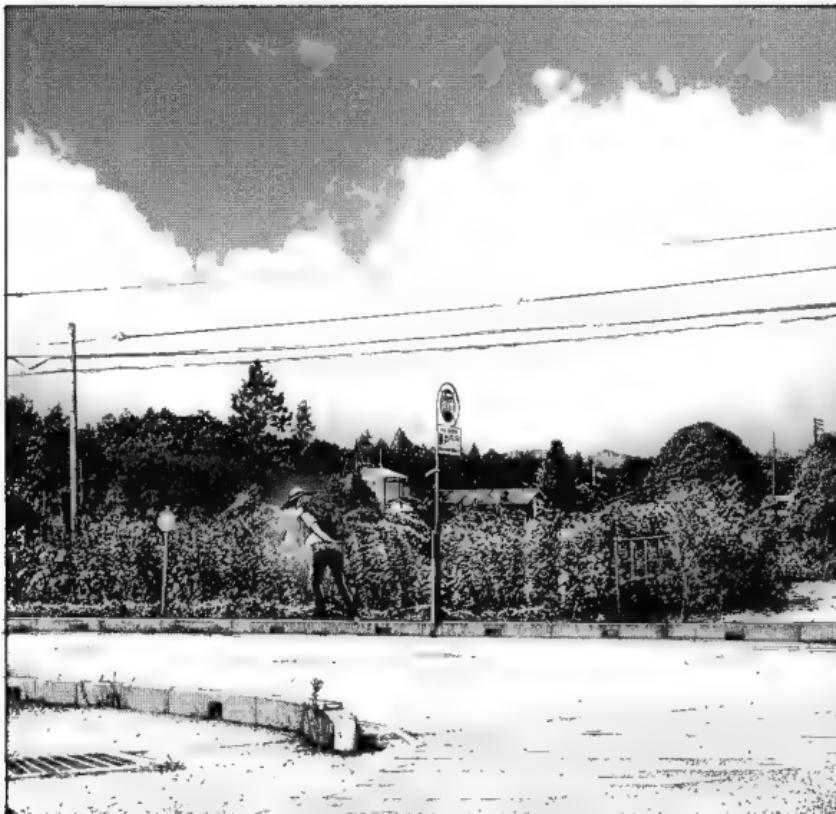
119,  
EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL  
SERVICES.

DO  
YOU NEED  
THE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
OR AN  
AMBULANCE?

HELLO?

CAN YOU  
HEAR  
ME?

DO  
YOU NEED  
THE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
OR AN  
AMBULANCE?











WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?



"...so  
we're  
resting."

"We  
came  
from far  
away..."



"...so  
we just  
started  
walking."

"We  
wanted  
to see  
how far  
we could  
go..."



"It would be mean to wake her, wouldn't it?"

"She's exhausted and finally fell asleep.

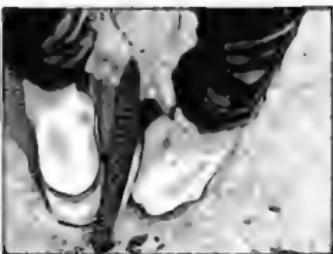
"...keep an eye out so no one disturbs her!"

"Would you guys..."



"You're a nice-looking couple."

"Thank you..."







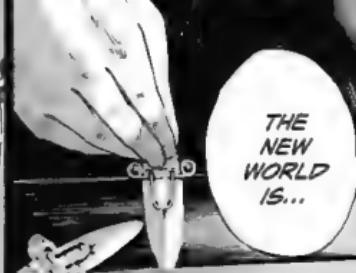


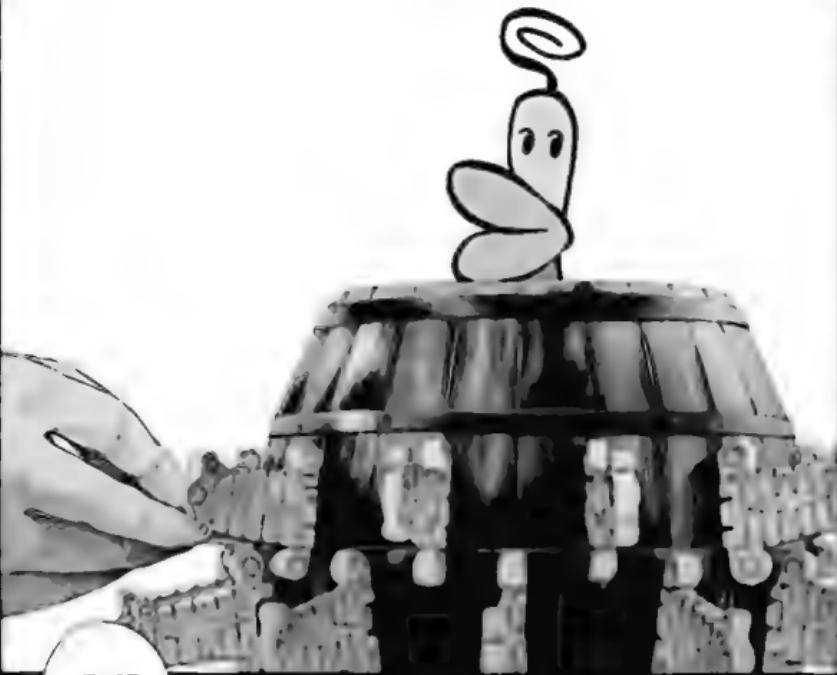


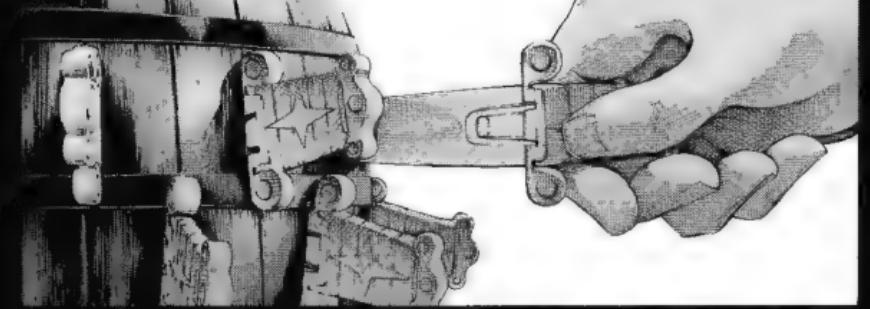
...I  
WON'T  
END  
THE  
WORLD.

BUT  
EVEN  
SO...

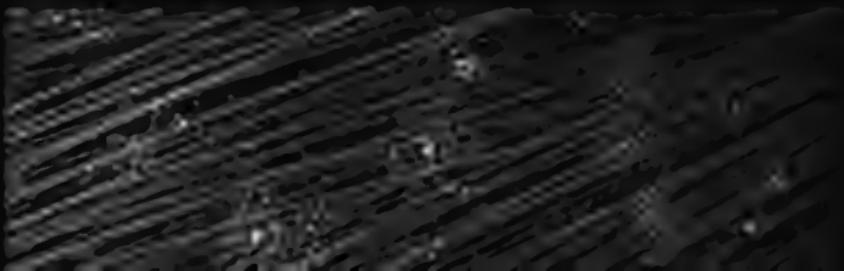












Chapter  
141









July 7 Tokyo Sunny

A young woman scurries, apologizing profusely on her cell phone for being late.





He thought it was  
very inconvenient  
to be tied to goals  
and pursuits.

But  
maybe that's  
just about  
binding the  
him-of-today  
to the him-of-  
tomorrow.



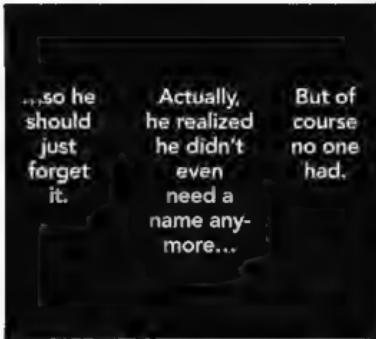
...very  
quiet.

It was  
quiet...



...he  
thought  
someone  
had called  
out to him.

For a  
second...



He felt nostalgic  
for the dingy 100-  
square-foot room  
and the boring,  
meaningless city  
he would never  
return to.

Yo.

...maybe  
when he  
opened  
them  
again,  
he'd be  
back  
several  
months  
ago  
when  
he was  
still a  
nobody.

If he  
closed  
his eyes  
for a  
moment  
and gave  
himself  
over to  
the waves  
of people  
getting  
sucked  
through  
the  
station  
barriers...



...was  
doing  
well  
today  
too.

He...









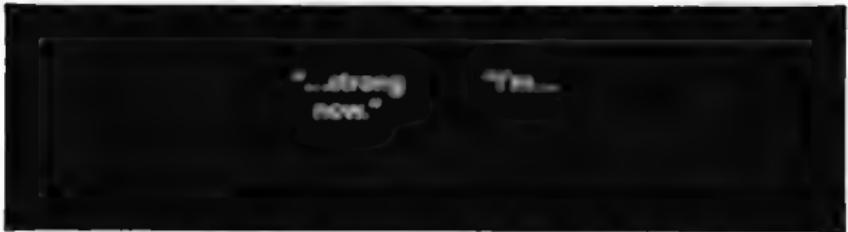
...those  
stars,  
that  
place.

Once  
again...











"This  
is the  
ideal  
I was  
search-  
ing  
for.

"I have  
nothing  
to lose  
and  
nothing  
left to  
protect.  
No  
worries,  
no  
conflict,  
no  
kindness.

"...and no  
matter how  
many times  
I rewind, I'd  
do the same  
thing again.

"I don't  
have a  
single  
regret...

"I  
finally  
got  
it."



I did it!  
I really did it.

Was this  
really the  
only way?



I love how  
you're still  
having  
doubts,  
even after  
your little  
speech.



"Hello,  
God."

(laugh)

"In the end,  
it's obvious  
what I need  
to do."

"I  
have no  
doubts."

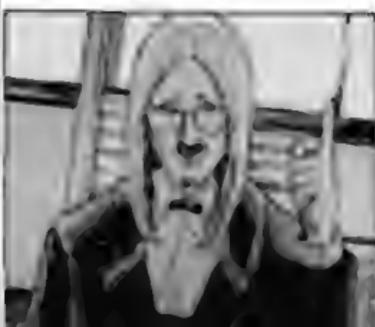
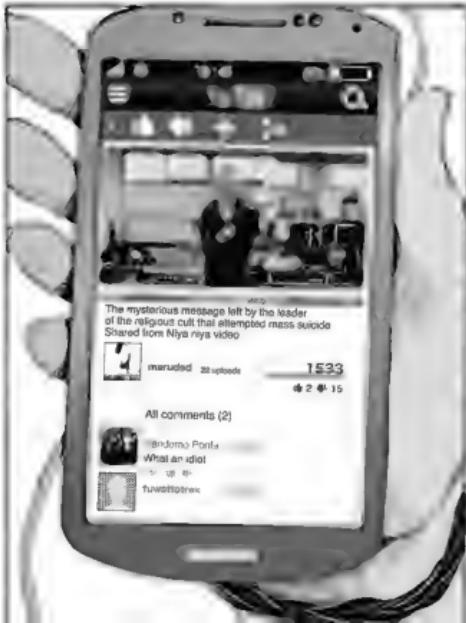
**Let's go back  
to that boring,  
Ordinary life.**

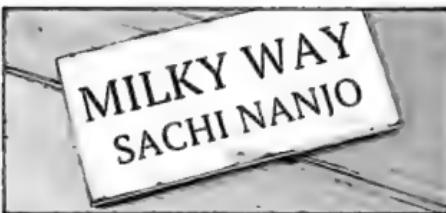
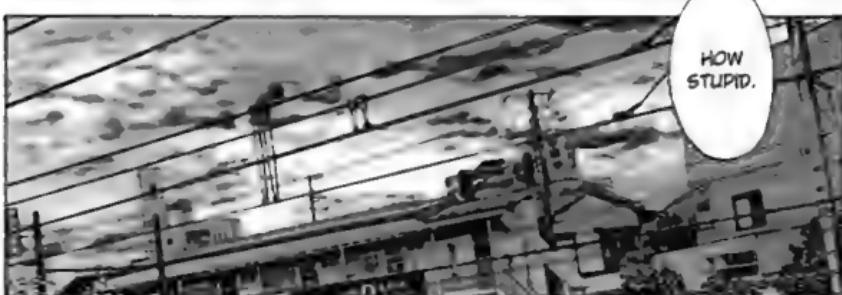


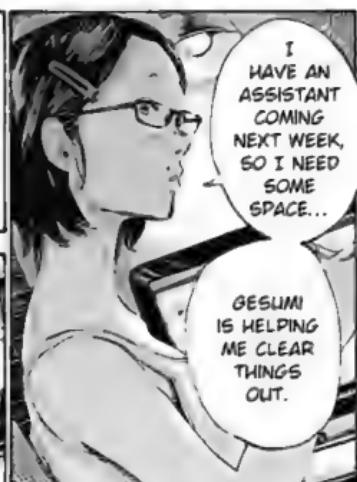
"You  
die."



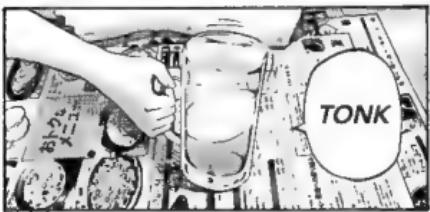




















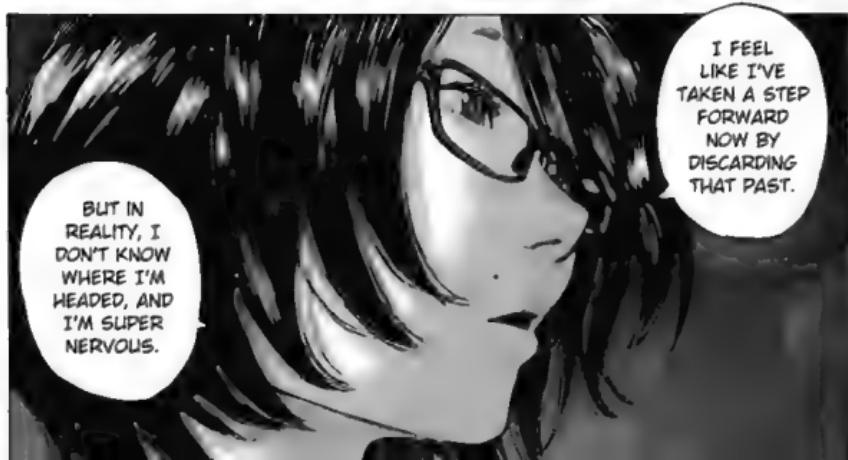




HMM?



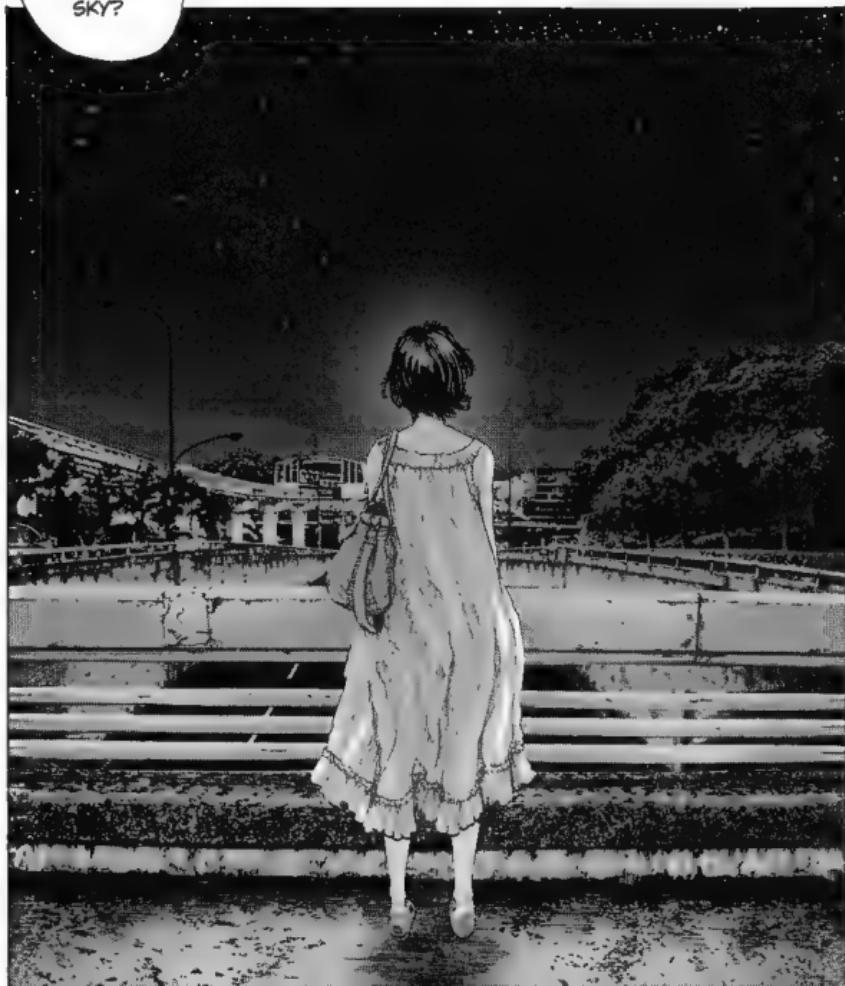






I  
WONDER  
WHAT  
KIND OF  
FUTURE...

...I USED TO  
DREAM ABOUT,  
LOOKING AT  
THE NIGHT  
SKY?















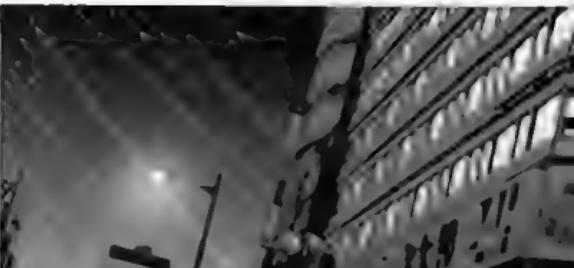














...how easy  
it would be if  
he could just  
burn out in a  
second and  
disappear.

Punpun  
thought...



...the  
stars  
shot  
by.

...after  
another...

One...



He  
was just  
thoroughly  
exhausted.

He  
wasn't  
sad. He  
wasn't  
happy.



That's what  
Punpun was  
thinking.

...Punpun  
didn't have to  
worry about  
tomorrow and  
could finally,  
deeply sleep...

By  
closing his  
remaining  
eye...

There  
is no  
God,  
no  
Aiko...



Goodnight...

PUNPUN.



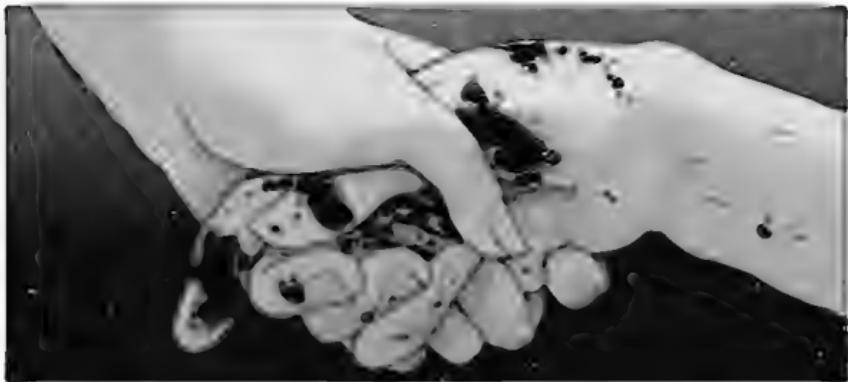
PERHAPS  
IT'S  
SELFISH-  
NESS ON  
MY PART.

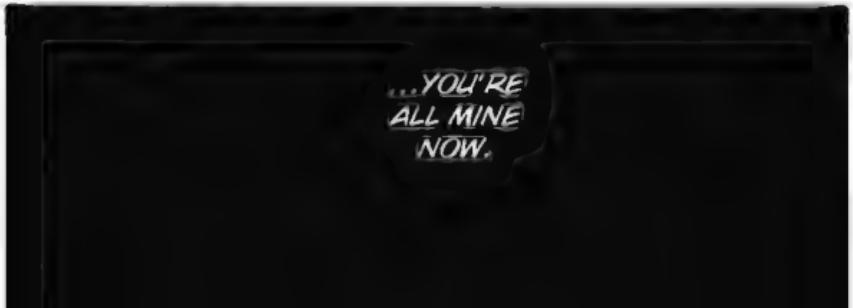
I  
COULD  
NEVER  
ALLOW  
THAT.



I WILL  
NEVER  
ALLOW YOU  
TO RUN  
AWAY FROM  
ME AGAIN.

I THINK AS  
LONG AS  
PUNPUN IS  
HURTING,  
I MUST BE  
STRONGER.





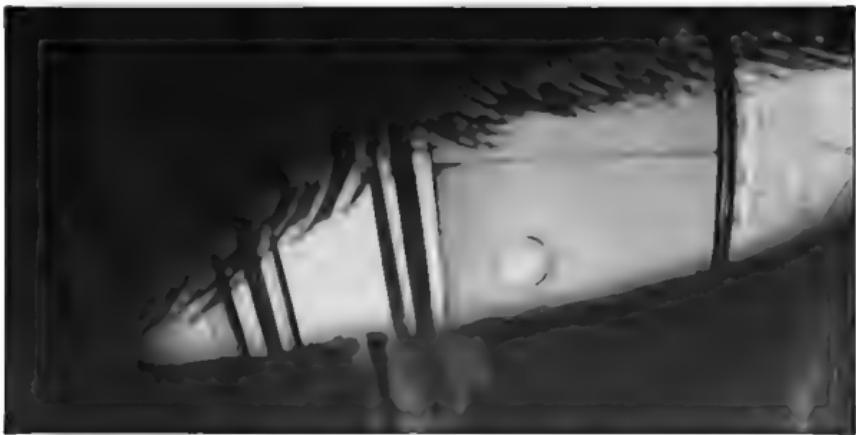




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Chapter

1  
4  
4



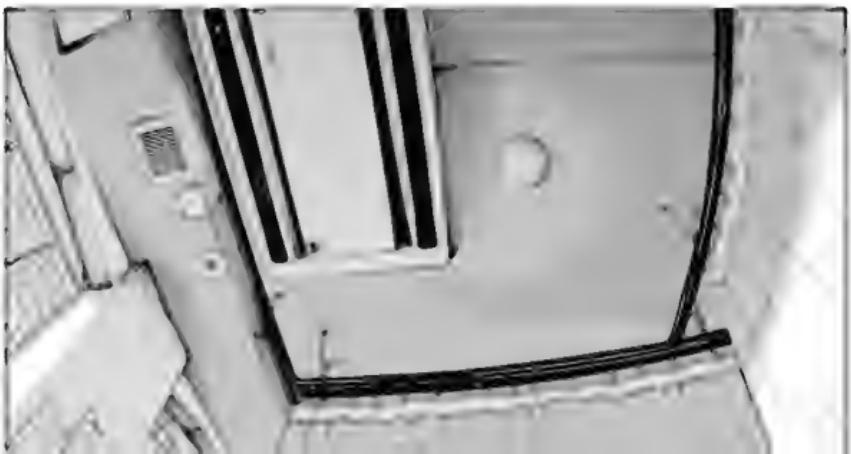








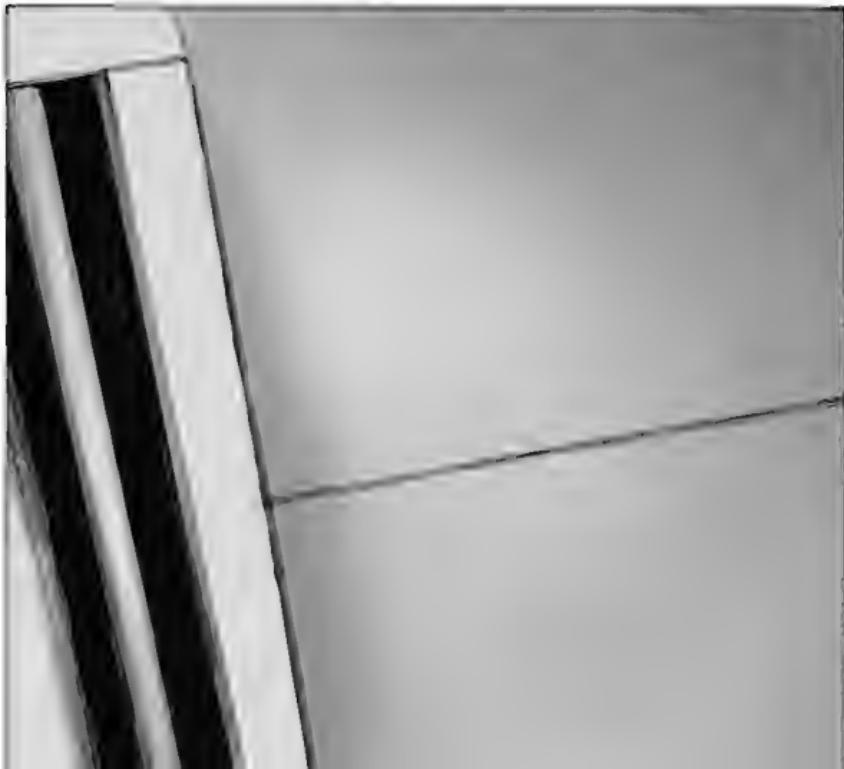


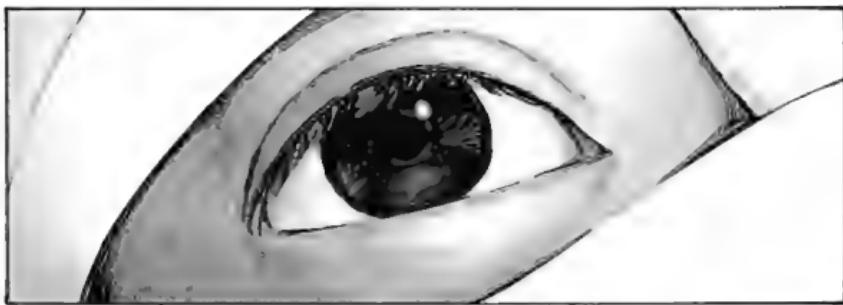






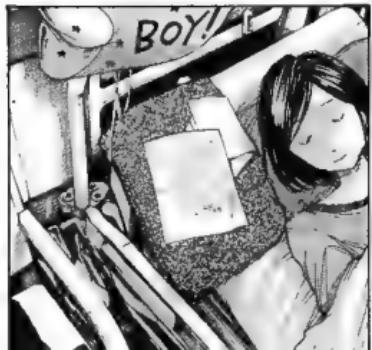










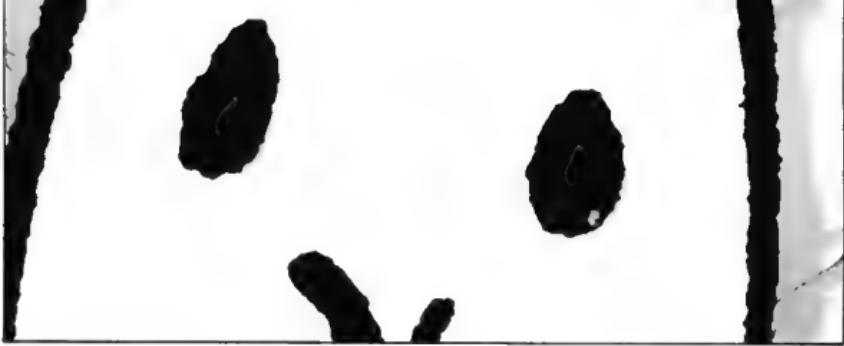




BIRTH CERTIFICATE	
NAME	Sara Ondres
DATE OF BIRTH	JAN 12, 2010
PLACE OF BIRTH	MARSHALL HOSPITAL
PLACE	MARSHALL HOSPITAL
NAME OF RECIPIENT	
WEIGHT AND HEIGHT	2430 g 46 cm
BIRTH OR MATERNAL WEIGHT	GENDER & PREGNANCY
MOTHER'S NAME	Mrs. Ondres
RECIPIENT OR MOTHER'S NAME IN MOTHER'S LANGUAGE	
DRAFT DATE: 09/09/2009	
PRINTED DATE: 09/09/2009	
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS: 12345 6TH AVENUE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97201	
MATERIALS USED: 100% COTTON	
EXPIRATION DATE: NOVEMBER 2010	
PRINTED DATE: NOVEMBER 2010	







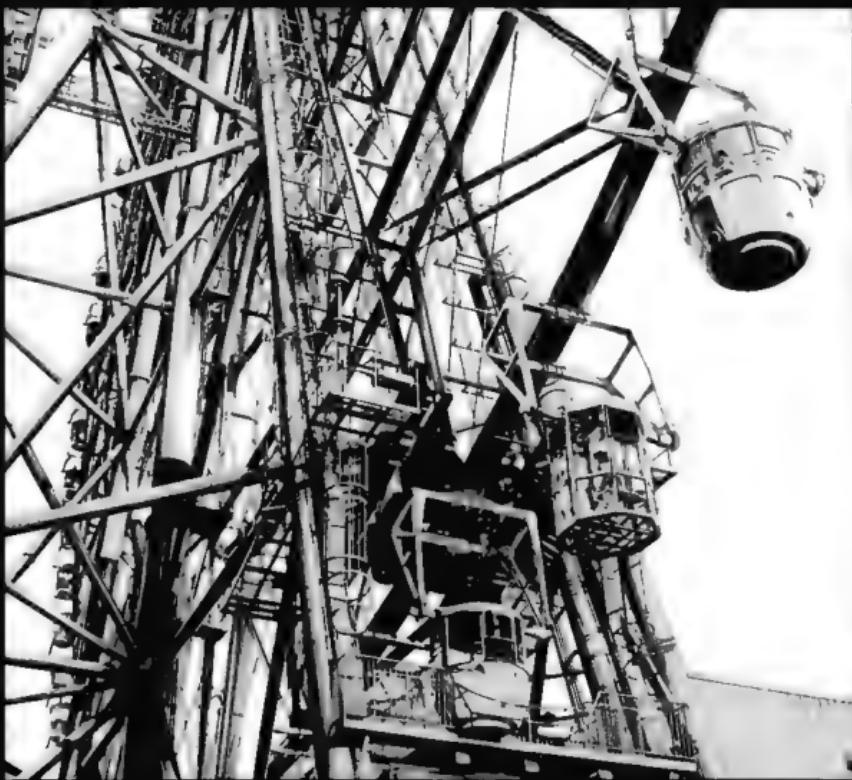


# GOODNIGHT PUNPUN

Part Thirteen

INIO ASANO













I'M  
MOVING  
FORWARD

IT  
TURNS  
OUT IT'S  
NOT SO  
HARD.







OF COURSE  
I THINK IT'S  
BEST IF SHE  
HAS A  
FATHER IN  
HER LIFE...

...BUT I'M  
PRETTY  
SURE IT'S  
NOT ME.



I  
WANT  
TO BE  
ALONE

THAT'S MY  
ONLY SELF-  
INDULGENCE.











"IF YOU  
BETRAY  
ME AGAIN...  
NEXT TIME  
I'LL KILL  
YOU."





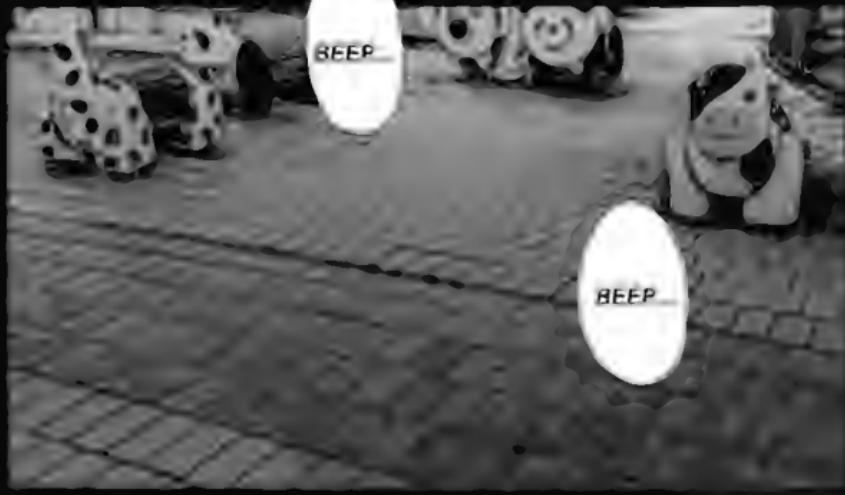
"YOU DON'T  
LIE, RIGHT,  
PUNPUN?"



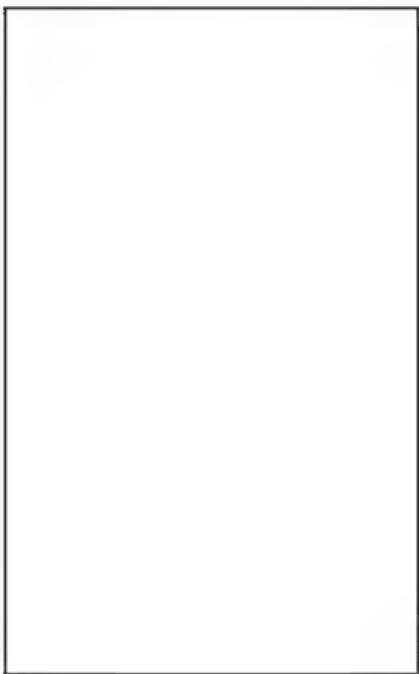


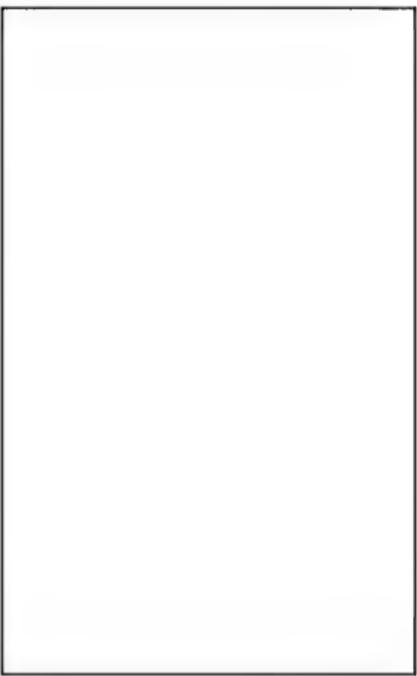












Chapter  
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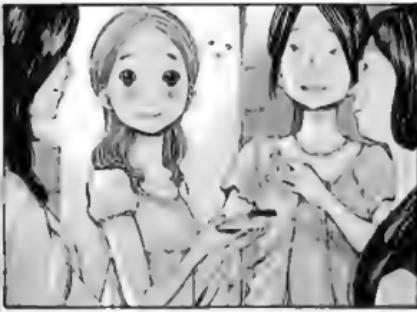






















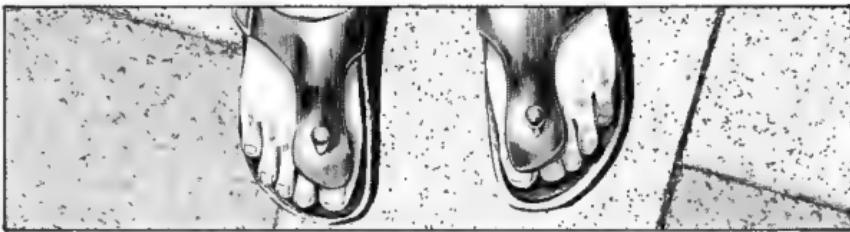




TANABATA  
THIS YEAR  
IS SUNNY  
IN THE  
MIDST OF  
THE RAINY  
SEASON.

I HAD THE  
URGE TO KILL  
SOMEONE,  
SO I WAS  
WANDERING  
AROUND IN A  
TOWN FULL OF  
SHOPPERS...

AND  
THEN I  
SAW HIM  
AGAIN.





AN  
AWKWARD,  
DISJOINTED  
CONVERSA-  
TION  
FOLLOWED.



AND  
WHEN THE  
CONVER-  
SATON  
TURNED  
TO THE  
WEATHER

WE BOTH  
ACKNOWL-  
EDGED IT  
WAS TIME  
TO LEAVE.

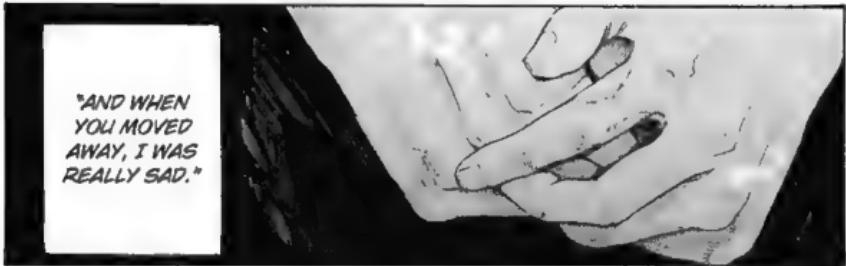
...HE SAID,  
"I HAVE  
SOMETHING  
I'VE BEEN  
WANTING TO  
TELL YOU  
FOR A LONG  
TIME.

AFTER  
A BRIEF  
SILENCE

"YOU KNOW  
THE PORN  
WATCHERS' CLUB?  
WE SHOULD'VE  
CALLED IT  
THE PORN  
WANTERS CLUB.  
IT WOULD'VE  
BEEN MORE  
ACCURATE."



AS I THOUGHT  
TO MYSELF,  
"THAT'S WHAT  
YOU WORRIED  
ABOUT ALL  
THESE YEARS?"  
HE CONTINUED...



"AND WHEN  
YOU MOVED  
AWAY, I WAS  
REALLY SAD."









AS WE PARTED,  
I SAID,  
"YOU GOT  
MARRIED..."



HIS  
EXPRESSION  
DENIED IT,  
AND I DIDN'T  
PURSUE IT ANY  
FURTHER.

I DIDN'T  
FEEL IT  
NECESSARY  
TO ASK HIM  
ABOUT THE  
SCAR ON HIS  
LEFT EYE  
EITHER.



BECAUSE  
HE AND  
I...

RAINBOW COSMETICS

COSメイク  
オン化粧品

EGANED G

EGANE







990





...THINKING IN  
THE BACK OF  
MY MIND THAT  
WE WOULD  
NEVER SEE  
EACH OTHER  
AGAIN.

I SAID,  
"SEE YOU  
LATER..."



I  
COULDN'T  
REMEMBER  
HIS NAME.

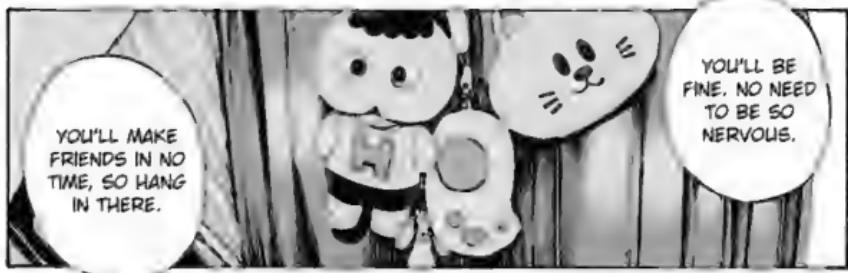












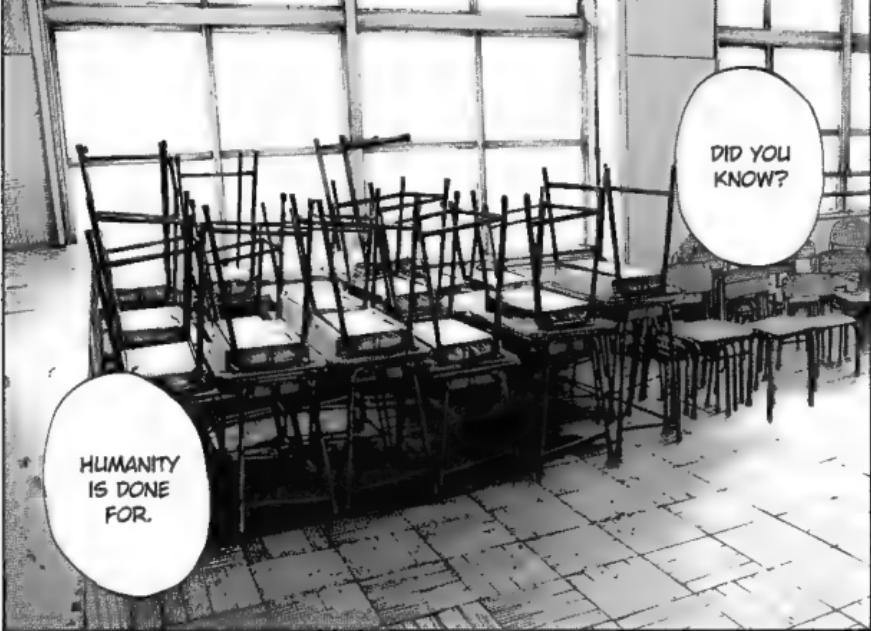












**GOODNIGHT PUNPUN** INIO ASANO

Part Thirteen

BACKGROUND ASSISTANTS: Satsuki Sato  
Hiro Kashiwaba

Ran Atsumori  
Yuki Toribuchi

COOPERATION: Kumatsuto  
Hisashi Saito  
Yasumasa Iwama  
Shunji Fujikawa  
Yu Uehara  
Kihachiro Kume  
Haruka Oikawa  
Ayako Maru



**INIO ASANO**, a bona fide earthling, was born in Ibaraki, Japan, in 1980. In 2001, his short story "Uchu kara Konnichiwa" (Hello from Outer Space) won the first Sunday GX Rookie Prize. Later, GX published his series *Subarashi Sekai*, available in English from VIZ Media as *What a Wonderful World!* His other works include *Hikari no Machi* (City of Light), *Nyujahara Holograph* and *Umibe no Onna no Ko* (A Girl on the Shore), as well as *solanin*, also available from VIZ Media.



# GOODNIGHT PUNPUN

Volume 7

VIZ Signature Edition

Story and Art by INIO ASANO

OYASUMI PUNPUN Vol. 13

by Inio ASANO

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